WORKING THE OLD GAME.

The Sawdust Racket Again Bobs Up and Its Worker Trying His Hand in Montana

sesses those stolen treasury plates and can make genuine money. If such were the case, in view of the fact that experts could not determine whether they were genuine or counterfeit, it is ridiculous to suppose that the counterfeiter would be soliciting trade for the disposition of his wares. But this is all bosh. It is the same old dodge, and it is not possible that any Montana man could be caught it. How do they work it? you ask. Simple enough, You go to New York to the place designated. You are shown some genuine bills, but the trade cannot be made then; that would never do. You are told that detectives are continually watching the place. But better still. Mr. Fraud tells you that he will meet you on a street at an appointed time. He instructs you as to signs he will give you when you pass each other. You are not to stop, but after you recognizing each other you will pass on, and after going a few paces you are to turn around. You must have the \$300 or more already in your hand to give over, and Mr. Fraud also has his package in readiness. A Confidential Letter Which Was Received by a Resident of Helena

The Fraud Too Flagrant Not to Be Noticed by Any Sensible Person-The Methods Exposed.

The sawdust game is anold, 'old' dodge which has become hoary with age, yet there are many people who are unsophisticated in the ways of tricksters, and it is to this class of people that this article is principally directed. So often has the press exposed the game that it would seem possible that no sane person would be so gullible as not to "tumble," to use the appropriate vernacular of the day, yet there are frauds who still insist on hunting for prey. The subjoined letter was received a few days ago by a well-to-do valley rancher, and it is understood that the state is being flooded with them. The very character of the communication is a sufficient guarantee as to its fraudulent character. The writer does not want any mail correspondence and deals only with "men of honor." But here is the letter:

My Dear Sir: I am desirous of obtaining a good, shrewd agent in your locality to

My Dear Sir: I am desirous of obtaining a good, shrewd agent in your locality to handle my medicine. The enclosure herewith gives all the information that could be desired, and explains itself:

An opportunity to make an independent fortune like this has never crossed your path before, and, in all probabilities, never will again as long as you live. There is no reason why you should be a slave and toil all of your life for nothing. If you are indiscreet enough to let a "golden chance" like this pass you by—all well and good. If you are miserable and in want of financial assistance—now or never is your time. In assistance—now or never is your time. In years to come, when you find yourself sadly in want of "coin" in order to keep body and soul together, you will have no one to blame for your wretched existence but yourself! This is serious and highly important food for thought. Your sober and earnest attention should be given to every word in this letter. A person without the "universal rudder"—the almighty dollar—is thought but little of, and is looked upon as of no importance to the world. Isn't this true? I know whereof I speak; in former years I have drank from the "bitter cup" myself.

If you have not the money to buy my goods, I would consent to your taking some

If you have not the money to buy my goods, I would consent to your taking some confidential friend in with you who has; provided, of course, he is trustworthy and could keep the secret. You could both then come on together and make the deal. However, you would be very foolish to take any one in with you if you could raise enough money varyself.

one in with you if you could raise enough money yourself.

If my business should suit you, it will be absolutely necessary for you to come on here and see me in person. I only deal face-to-face with my customers. Experience has taught me that this is the safest and most satisfactory way for both. By your coming on here, you see what you are buying and I see who I am dealing with. Consequently we both feel better satisfied. I know it is quite a journey for you to make; but think of the tremendous profits to be made with no risk, comparatively speaking, whatever. Now as far as expense is concerned, I always make a liberal allowence to cover the same. Make up your mind to come on—I know you will always be thankful for your visit to me. You will find me a square and honorable white man in every particular. When you arrive here, I will show you my entire stock, from which you can make your own selections. If my you can make your own selections. If my goods are not all that I claim for them, and goods are not all that I claim for them, and are not as fine as the newspaper article speaks of, I will make you a present of one thousand dollars in gold! and also pay your traveling expenses both ways. What fairer could you ask? My prices are as follows: \$300 gets there thousand; \$400 gets five thousand; \$650 gets ten thousand; \$1,000 gets thirty thousand. The more you invest the cheaper you get the goods. The sizes are from one to twenty; \$300 worth of goods is positively the very smallest amount I will sell under any circumstances. If you will invest \$650 or more, I will agree to give you the exclusive state right. Now, should you wish to do business with me, you must obey the following instructions, and do only as I tell you:

the following instructions, and do only as I tell you:

First—Don't, as long as you live, ever write a letter to me until I give you permission. If you do, it will be refused. See? I mean exactly what I say; and, furthermore, all business relations between us will end.

Second—If you wish to come on here and Second-If you wish to come on here and

see me, send the following telegram (remember, telegrams only will be received), and simply say: "Send instructions," then sign your name as "pass word" and number given you.
Third—On receipt of your telegram I will

send you full instructions how to meet me and where to stop, then no mistakes will be made in finding one another. In conclusion I wish to say if you cannot come on here, or have not \$300 to invest, simply let the matter doop until you here from me again. This will certainly occur before the expira-This will certainly occur before the expiration of thirty days. Kindly allow me to caution you again not to write letters! Be patient and wait until you hear from me. You must be guided by my advice. If you do, you are bound to succeed. No such thing as fail, Act square! Be true and honorable! Do me no harm, and you will never regret it. You can make money faster and easier by dealing in my goods than you ever dreamed of before in your life. Yours sincerely, in honor and confidence. "You Know,"

dence. "You Know,"

The caution taken in not signing any name or giving the letter any date, will be observed, but inclosed in the letter is a small slip of paper containing this important instruction:

Send your telegram to Charles A. Wilson, 1040 Adams street, Hoboken, N. J. Your "pass word" and sign is "N Thirty-seven."

Do not sign anything else.
"N Thirty-seven is written in ink and evi-

On not sign anything else.

"N Thirty-seven is written in ink and evidently in a woman's handwriting. But that is not all. Also enclosed in the same enveloped is an alleged newspaper clipping. It is uniquely devised, but anyone familiar with the make-up of a newspaper will at once detect the fraud. The letters: "ily Hara" shown on the alignment. with the make-up of a newspaper will at once detect the fraud. The letters: "ily Hera" shown on the clipping, given the reader to understand that the clipping is from the "Daily Heraid," but the space where the date of the paper should appear is left blank. Turning the paper over appears an article entitled, "A Leak in the Engraving Department," while in the credit line and in Italics appears "United States District Court." This is for the purpose of misleading the reader to believe that the article is a part of the proceedings of the court. Another flaw in the clipping is that the article begins at the very edge of the paper, registering with the top of the title letters on the opposite side, whereas every newspaper has a margin at the head of its columns. The article goes on to show that a Denver merchant received a letter from a New York man who offered to sell him money printed from United States treasury plates. The merchant in formed United States Marshal Perry and the latter went to New York and took a detective in with him. One day the detective caught the counterfeiter, who was an old mar, at in with him. One day the detective caught the counterfeiter, who was an old man; a trial was had and experts from the treasury department could not swear that the certifi-cates were counterfeits. The only flaw in them was they did not contain as much silken fibre as others. It was stated during the trial that certain bank note plates were stolen. The result was that the old man was discharged and walked out of the court room

with a valise containing \$100,000 worth of The object of this story is plain. The

fraud wants to convey the idea that he pos-sesses those stolen treasury plates and can make genuine money. If such were the

already in your hand to give over, and Mr. Fraud also has his package in readiness. You meet again, make the exchange quickly and without a word and go your respective paths. Mr. Fraud has your good money and what have you? You go to your hotel at once, lock yourself in your room, open out your package before you and what have you received for your money? A package of sawdust. You are duped. You are robbed, but the business is of such a character that you dare not say a word without laying yourself open to danger. Your friend you cannot find. You go home concluding that you are a poorer but wiser

cluding that you are a poorer but wiser

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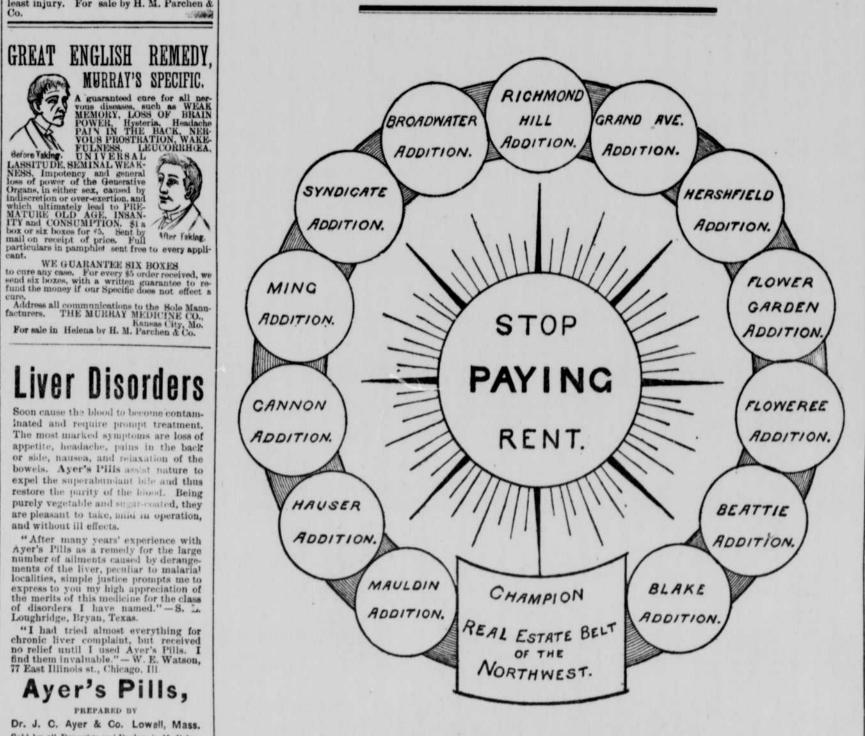
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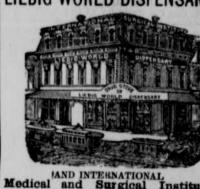
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